

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING,
OCTOBER 4, 2018
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:00 PM BY CHAIRMAN HARRY ROBBINS.

ALL STOOD FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD BY DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK CAPASSO:

“IN COMPLIANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 10:4, OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, NOTICE WAS GIVEN TO TWO NEWSPAPERS, AND POSTED, THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST IS SCHEDULED FOR THE FOURTH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2018, TO BEGIN AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. AT THE LAKEHURST COMMUNITY CENTER, 207 CENTER STREET, LAKEHURST, NEW JERSEY, AT WHICH TIME, THE BUSINESS OF THE AGENCY WILL BE CONDUCTED.”

ROLL CALL:

ROBIN BUSCH: PRESENT

GARY LOWE: PRESENT

JAMES DAVIS: ABSENT

ROBERT McCARTHY: PRESENT

PATRICIA HODGES: PRESENT

STEVEN OGLESBY: PRESENT

CHAIRMAN HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: Patricia Hodges

To approve minutes of September 6, 2018 Regular Meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative with the exception of James Davis who abstained due to his absence at the September 6, 2018 Regular Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Redevelopment Attorney Sean Gertner stated Remington and Verna is working on the draft of the master plan.

Gary Lowe asked if there was anything on the landfill delineation.

Mr. Gertner responded that a wetland delineation is needed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Time opened: 7:05 PM

Jerry Bove, owner of La Bove Grande, 800 Route 70, stated a zoning change for Route 70 corridor was to occur a couple of months ago because his potential tenants want to lease Mr. Bove's restaurant for a rehabilitation center. Mr. Bove added there was a misunderstanding about what the tenant wants to put at the location. Mr. Bove went on to say the tenant is not putting a drug center where drug addicts are going to get "a fix" but a drug rehabilitation center where patients will stay for 30 to 60 days to be rehabilitated under supervised care.

Mr. Bove also stated social media is talking about corruption and added he has been in this borough for forty-four years and has never asked the Mayor and Council do something that was not permitted. Mr. Bove expressed that he wants to do a good thing for the Borough, not a bad thing and asked the Mayor and Council to reconsider the zone change adding a drug rehabilitation center is needed with Ocean County having one of the highest drug epidemics. Mr. Bove also added he is not looking to hurt Lakehurst adding there are drug rehabilitation in prominent areas like Malibu and Miami because it takes money to go to these places.

Redevelopment Agency Attorney Sean Gertner clarified that Mr. Bove is attending the Redevelopment Agency meeting in hopes that the Redevelopment Committee makes a recommendation to the Mayor and Council to support a zoning change. Mr. Gertner added Mr. Bove is aware that if there is no zone change then the new tenant would be required to file a use variance with the Land Use Board along with a site plan.

Mr. Bove thanked Mr. Gertner for the clarification and added if the zone change is approved the tenant then needs to get approval from the State of New Jersey.

Councilman Lowe asked the name of the tenant and where they are located so the residents could look them up on social media.

Mr. Bove responded the name is Sprout Health Group and is in Eatontown, New Jersey. Mr. Bove added that it is a clean operation and he would not put something that was not beneficial to Lakehurst after being here for forty-five years.

Councilwoman Hodges responded that the zoning change has been tabled and it will be reviewed in January.

Mr. Bove responded that time is an issue and asked if it could be reconsidered at an earlier time.

Mr. Gertner asked Mr. Bove if he knows the Chief Medical Officer for the potential tenant.

Mr. Bove responded he does not know and added the tenant will fill out the proper paper work for the Land Use Board and answer all question that are required.

Mr. Gertner responded the Land Use Board is the proper place for the tenant to testify.

Councilman McCarthy questioned Mr. Bove when he spoke with the tenants was there any mention of the impact the drug rehabilitation would have on the resale values on the homes in the surrounding area.

Mr. Bove responded there was no talk regarding the impact on resale values and added that the tenants have facilities in prominent areas not only in New Jersey but in other areas in the United States and would not be putting one in the Borough if there was an issue.

Mr. Gertner responded the talk of the potential tenant for La Bove Grande is just one of many uses in the proposed zoning change. Mr. Gertner added he does not want too much on the record at the redevelopment meeting because it could have an effect when the applicant applies to the Land Use Board.

Mr. Bove responded to the question regarding the drug rehabilitation center affecting the values of the homes and added he built La Bove Grande 30 years ago adding value to the borough.

Mr. Gertner responded that as a small community, Lakehurst, it is often difficult to create commercial zones.

Borough Administrator Childers stated Mr. Bove came to the Redevelopment Meeting to explain his situation.

Mrs. Hodges added that the Redevelopment Committee heard Mr. Bove's case but cannot address it.

Time closed: 7:22 PM

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges

Seconded by: James Davis

To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 7:23 PM

Maryanne Capasso
Deputy Municipal Clerk

